

OREGON CROP WEATHER



OREGON
AGRICULTURAL
STATISTICS
SERVICE

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Weather: The wet and rainy conditions continued throughout the State, especially in eastern Oregon. Morrow County is now reported to be above-average in rainfall. Scattered showers in Harney County have helped slightly to fill subsoil levels. Some hail was reported in Umatilla County, with little accompanying damage. Hail was also noted near Ontario, in Malheur County and weather has been cooler than normal there. Klamath County had some late-week freezing overnight temperatures. A range fire was spotted in Sherman County, just as fire season is upon us. In western Oregon, significant rainfall occurred in the Willamette Valley, helping most crops there. High temperatures in the State were generally in the seventies, and reached the mid-eighties in some southwestern Oregon areas. Medford and Roseburg weather stations reported 80 growing degree days (base 50); highest for the week.

Field Crops: Another relatively cool and wet week, especially in eastern Oregon, pushed small grain crop development but slowed haying progress. Statewide, 72 percent of the winter wheat crop was headed or beyond, up from 45 percent the previous week. Small grain crop conditions continued to be rated mostly good to excellent last week, despite reports of rust in the wheat and grass crops in Marion and Josephine counties. In Umatilla County, much of the first cutting of hay got rained on after it was cut and suffered severe quality damage.

Vegetables: Rain was welcomed across the State during the week. Processing vegetables are still being planted in Clackamas County. Earlier vegetable plantings are growing nicely. Salad greens are available in good supply. Corn is emerging evenly, thanks to the rain. A couple of hailstorms in the Ontario/Nyssa area may have damaged some onion fields. Warmer temperatures in Klamath County enabled potato growers to continue with planting. Potatoes were emerging in other counties.

Nurseries and Greenhouses: Greenhouse and nursery operations are finally past the spring rush and moving into a summer maintenance mode of operation. All nurseries are irrigating their plants and working on weed control. Christmas tree growers are seeing lots of new growth on the trees and the crop looks excellent. Very early lilies are starting to bloom in the Valley. Iris growers are finishing up their annual open houses and Oregon can be proud of having the two largest iris growers in the country.

Fruit and Nuts: The rain was welcomed last week, except by strawberry and cherry growers. In an effort to prevent cracking, some Wasco County growers used low flying helicopters to dry-off cherries; other used their ground fan sprayers to blow wind into the trees. Strawberry harvest was in high gear in the Willamette Valley and southwestern Oregon. Caneberries were past bloom and berries were formed. Apples, pears and peaches were in various stages of being thinned as they sized last week.

Livestock, Range and Pasture: Scattered precipitation received across the State continued to improve pasture and rangeland conditions. Western Oregon reported pastures in good to excellent condition with last week's rain helping to aid grazing further into the summer. Eastern Oregon rangeland remains dry in some areas but the above-normal precipitation received has greatly helped improve conditions. Subsoil moisture remained short, but the rain helped keep range and pastureland grass green. Livestock were reported in excellent condition throughout the State. Some cattle were reported being moved into Forest Service permit land.

Crop Progress - Week Ending 5/30/04

	This week	Previous week	Last year	5 year average
Barley planted (%)	100	95	90	—
Barley emerged (%)	88	80	81	—
Spring wheat emerged (%)	100	95	91	—
Winter wheat headed (%)	72	45	41	41
Days suitable for fieldwork	4.8	4.9	—	—

Soil Moisture - Week Ending 5/30/04

	Very short	Short	Adequate	Surplus
Topsoil (%)	2	22	75	1
Subsoil (%)	6	36	57	1

Crop Condition - Week Ending 5/30/04

	Very poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
Winter Wheat (%)	1	7	33	51	8
Barley (%)	—	7	30	54	9
Range & Pasture (%)	2	6	33	51	8

WESTERN OREGON

CLACKAMAS: Rains during the week have enhanced the grain and hay crops. Strawberry harvest has moved into high gear on a very good crop, but prices at the processors are very low. Caneberries are past bloom and berries are formed. Apples and pears are sizing and will need thinning. Processing vegetables are still being planted, while earlier plantings are making good growth. Salad greens are available in good supply. Greenhouse and nursery operations are past the spring rush and moving into a summer maintenance mode. Livestock continue in good condition. Pastures received some welcome rains to aid good grazing further into the summer.

COOS/CURRY: Some haymaking interrupted by rain. Livestock looks good. Pastures good to excellent. Significant precipitation this week on southern coast. Average air temperatures at coastal AgriMet weather stations ranged from 56.3 deg F at Bandon to 56.8 deg F at Brookings-Harbor; highs ranged from 64.2 to 83.3 deg F, and lows ranged from 45.2 to 47.0 deg F. Precipitation ranged from 0.84 inches at Brookings-Harbor to 0.96 inches at Bandon. Growing degree days (base 50 deg F) ranged from 45 GDD at Bandon to 61 GDD at Brookings-Harbor. Significant rain on one day during the period, with cloudy weather prevailing and scattered showers on two other days.

JOSEPHINE: Warm weather with cooling winds. Have had some coastal influence during mornings. Afternoons are warm. Nighttime temperatures are in the 40 to 50 degree range. Heat loving crops are in and doing well. Plants are avoiding transplant shock with some cloud cover. Blueberries are ripening; cherries too. Apples are showing good size, seeing apple scab on some trees that are not getting good air circulation. Pears showing no fruit. Strawberries continue to produce a good crop and the truck garden that grows them in this area sells out each day.

LANE/LINN/BENTON: First hay crop being harvested. Peaches and apples being thinned. Crop looks better in some areas. Other areas, the crop is poor. Apples are showing codling moth and scab damage due to the hot and wet weather. Hazelnut crop still looks down- poor to mediocre. Blueberries look good; raspberries and blackberries having a huge crop. Kiwis have heavy freeze damage. Vegetables growing nicely. Cold, wet weather has slowed sales of nursery and greenhouses. On warm days, sales increase. Lots of rust developing on some grass and wheat fields. Corn is emerging very evenly, thanks to the rain.

MARION: Recent wet and cool weather is a big help for most crops. Could use another inch or so of rain. Considerably more rust in some winter wheat fields than in past years; many fields have been sprayed. Rust in grass seed fields is quite variable; some with fairly high levels and others with very little. Rust control sprays are being made as needed. Mint, hops and sugarbeet fields look normal for this time of year. Have had a rainy week. Farmers would like a little more moisture than we have had so far.

YAMHILL: This week's rainfall and cooler temperatures have slowed the maturation of orchard crops and limited pest control spraying. Rain was welcomed this week, except by the strawberry growers. Strawberry crop is looking very good but price is 10 to 15 cents off last year. Some grass seed growers are still irrigating as the crop is taking up the rain as fast as it is coming down. Reports of some hail during some of the storms last week but not expecting damage. Reports of light sweet cherry crop in the Hopewell area.

EASTERN OREGON

BAKER: Potatoes emerging. Irrigation continues. Bedding plant shipment fully underway. Showers have been quite welcome, but it's still dry.

CROOK/DESCHUTES/JEFFERSON: First cutting of grass and alfalfa hay increased this week in Jefferson County, but rain showers have caught some with hay down. Winter wheat is heading out in Jefferson County. Mid-week showers and cool temperatures are slowing the harvest of hay. Continued showers made putting hay up difficult.

HARNEY: Scattered heavy rain showers helped to keep the grass green but has not been enough to fill subsoil. Cattle moving to Forest Service permits this week.

KLAMATH: Grain, onion and hay crops are looking good. First cutting is underway for alfalfa crops. Warmer temperatures early in the week were followed by rain and freezing nighttime temperatures later in the week. Potato planting continues.

MALHEUR: About a half an inch of rain accumulated through Thursday at Ontario. Weather cooler than normal and mostly cloudy, conserving moisture. Hay down, some got wet. Some spotty stands showing up, reflecting dry and windy conditions at planting time. Range conditions vary, depending on location of scattered showers, but ranges mostly need more rain. Alfalfa harvest is starting up again after a rain delay for two weeks. A couple of hailstorms in the Ontario/Nyssa area last week may have caused some damage to onions and sugarbeets. The rangeland in most areas got at least one good rainstorm and some areas got a good soaking. Sunshine and warmer weather this week will put things back in order.

MORROW: This is amazing, we just keep getting rain. We are above average in rainfall and the pasture and range show the positive rainfall. There were flood warnings for Pendleton on a couple of days.

SHERMAN: Winter wheat almost done heading. Drought spots continue despite spotty showers. Rains ranged from 0.06 to 1.10 inches. A couple hundred acres damaged by hail last weekend. First range fire already burned a couple hundred acres and threatened buildings. Alfalfa and dryland grain and grass hay had first cutting down and getting wet. Sawfly numbers dropped considerably in wheat fields. Annual Crop Hop drew 50 growers. Fuel prices dropped nearly 20 cents, fueling some smiles but still higher than in most budgets. Fuel prices affecting farm plans.

UMATILLA: The wheat and barley crops are doing very well. Unfortunately, all of the rain and cool weather has damaged or delayed almost all other crops. Most first cutting of hay has suffered severe quality damage. Row crops have suffered a little from hail but are mostly late in maturing because of cool weather. Cherries have suffered some damage. Warm weather is needed for most crops.

UNION: Over four inches of rain for the month of May! Crops benefitted greatly from this moisture. Bluegrass seed and fescue seed is headed. Another wet week in eastern Oregon. Rivers and streams are running high and full but so far very little flooding has been reported. Warmer weather is forecast for next week so maybe it will dry out a little. No hay is being cut yet, due in part to the wet and cold conditions.

WALLOWA: Good moisture received throughout the week, with a nice warm day thrown in just to let us know that the sun was still up there. Crops and range are benefitting greatly from the rains. Some ponds that were dry are getting some of the runoff, but in most cases the moisture in getting into the ground.

WASCO: A quarter of an inch of rain fell Thursday, aiding the grain crops but threatening the early cherry crop, causing the cherries to crack. Some orchardists used helicopters flying low over the trees to dry off the cherries, while other orchardists used their ground fan sprayers to blow wind into the trees. Spraying continued all week for controlling the cherry fruit fly. Most cherries are coloring rapidly. Alfalfa hay baling was active until Thursday's rain. Irrigation has started for the second cutting regrowth in the Tygh Valley and Dufur areas. Cattle and sheep continued to do well on range and pastures that are still showing some green tints, quite different from the previous year's drought.

WEATHER DATA FOR SELECTED STATIONS IN OREGON WEEK ENDING May 30, 2004 (as of 11:00 am)

STATION	AIR TEMPERATURE				GROWING DEGREE DAYS BASE-50F		LAST WEEK PRECIP			SEASON CUM PRECIPITATION			
	LO	HI	AVG	DFN	TOTAL	DFN	TOTAL INCHES	DFN	DAYS	TOTAL INCHES	DFN	PCT NORMAL	DAYS
COASTAL AREAS													
Astoria/Clatsop	47	69	57	3	49	20	2.56	1.93	5	59.23	-2.29	96	173
Crescent City	45	63	55	2	39	6	0.82	0.28	2	53.00	-9.53	85	137
Florence	41	70	56	1	41	8	1.08	0.32	5	68.51	-3.37	95	169
North Bend	45	70	57	3	53	19	0.91	0.36	5	62.73	2.44	104	161
Tillamook	41	70	55	3	38	14	3.53	2.62	5	79.03	-3.04	96	179
WILLAMETTE VALLEY													
Corvallis	43	82	61	4	77	29	0.13	-0.27	3	29.60	-10.48	74	125
Eugene	45	78	59	1	62	6	0.26	-0.16	5	36.51	-9.84	79	140
Hillsboro	43	80	58	2	60	8	0.39	0.03	5	28.93	-5.64	84	146
McMinnville	39	78	57	-2	48	-6	0.99	0.63	6	31.90	-9.02	78	145
Portland AP	50	81	60	2	74	8	0.76	0.34	5	27.53	-5.57	83	143
Salem	43	79	58	2	56	6	0.60	0.18	5	35.84	-0.66	98	147
SW VALLEYS													
Grants Pass	42	85	61	-2	77	-4	0.16	-0.05	2	27.76	-2.02	93	113
Medford	41	85	61	-1	80	3	0.13	-0.08	2	18.92	1.43	108	110
Roseburg AP	45	81	61	2	80	15	0.52	0.24	3	31.62	0.78	103	131
NORTH CENTRAL													
Condon	36	69	51	-4	19	-15	0.34	0.06	3	15.65	3.79	132	87
Heppner	41	76	56	3	46	-13	0.64	0.36	6	12.38	0.43	104	119
Hermiston AP	39	78	61	-3	75	-10	0.23	0.09	3	8.92	1.03	113	84
John Day	38	63	51	-6	13	-32	0.49	0.13	3	10.01	-0.49	95	102
Moro	38	75	55	-3	38	-7	0.33	0.19	3	10.62	0.87	109	83
Pendleton AP	45	74	59	-3	64	-12	0.46	0.25	4	12.02	1.52	114	92
The Dalles	45	81	61	4	75	26	0.10	-0.11	2	12.61	1.46	113	97
SOUTH CENTRAL													
Bend	31	70	49	-4	14	-13	0.32	0.11	1	12.18	2.41	125	74
Burns AP	29	75	51	-4	17	-12	0.46	0.21	3	8.11	0.04	100	80
Klamath Falls	29	75	52	-4	22	-19	0.07	-0.14	2	11.47	-0.38	97	93
Lakeview	27	72	50	-5	12	-20	0.17	-0.18	2	8.55	-5.02	63	58
Redmond	29	71	51	-4	19	-14	0.55	0.34	2	8.86	2.02	130	75
NORTHEAST													
Baker City	30	67	50	-7	9	-30	0.53	0.18	4	6.62	-1.35	83	85
Joseph	32	63	45	-5	3	-12	1.29	0.80	6	13.70	-7.45	65	108
La Grande AP	38	70	52	-6	22	-28	0.61	0.23	4	11.88	-2.62	82	91
Union	37	68	52	-4	21	-17	1.13	0.71	6	13.56	2.88	127	111
SOUTHEAST													
Ontario	39	74	57	-7	54	-38	0.49	0.28	4	8.09	-0.23	97	68
Rome	33	75	55	-5	37	-24	1.26	1.01	4	6.49	0.05	101	69

Summary based on National Weather Service data.

Season Cumulative Precip Starts: Monday, September 1, 2003.

DFN=Departure from normal (using 1961-90 normals period).

Precipitation Days = Days with precipitation of 0.01 inch or more.

Precipitation (rain or melted snow/ice) in inches.

Air Temperatures in Degrees Fahrenheit.

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